

Glossary

abalone – ocean snail used as food; shell used for bowls, fishhooks, jewelry and decoration.

acorn – the fruit of the oak tree and a major food source for all Native American people in the California area including the Chumash and Gabrielino/Tongva.

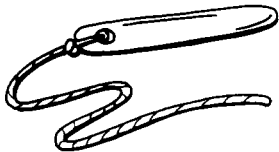
adobe brick – a brick made from clay, straw and water that is poured into a wooden frame and dried, or baked, in the sun..

ap – Chumash dwelling (home).

asphaltum – naturally occurring thick tar used to seal and waterproof baskets, *tomols*, *tiats* and other items. Also used as a glue, by itself or mixed with other substances (such as pine pitch).

awl – leather punch; a tool made from bones and other materials to make holes and for coiled basketmaking.

branding iron – a metal tool used to mark/brand cattle. The distinctive mark of each rancho or mission would be burned into the hide of cattle by heating the brand until it was red hot and applying it to the right hindquarter of the animal where it would permanently mark the cow.



bullroarer – small, flat piece of wood, with a long cord attached, that when swung around in the air over the head makes a low buzzing noise. Used by Chumash and Gabrielino/ Tongva as a musical instrument and for ceremonies.

carreta – a cart used for hauling goods, and usually pulled by oxen.

Chumash – Native people historically living in the western Santa Monica Mountains, northern Channel Islands, along the coast from Malibu to San Luis Obispo, and inland to the edge of the Central Valley (San Joaquin).

clapper stick – a musical instrument used by the Chumash and Gabrielino/Tongva. Usually made from sticks that are split down one end and wrapped at the other with animal or plant fiber. It is tapped against the hand or thigh to produce a clapping sound.

Gabrielino/Tongva – native people historically living in the Los Angeles area and southern Channel Islands. They differ from the Chumash primarily in language and religion.

granary – A structure or large baskets on a raised platform for storing acorns, seeds and other foods.

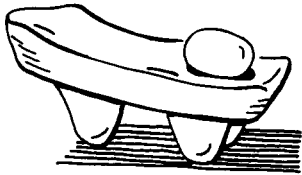
hide – the raw or tanned skin of the cow; used to make braided reatas, leather products, bags and more.

juncus – plant used as one of the main basketry materials by the Chumash and Gabrielino/Tongva.

kiiy – Gabrielino/Tongva dwelling (home).

leach – a way to remove poison or tannic acid by washing an object or substance (such as acorns) with water.

mano – a round stone tool held in the hand and used for grinding, crushing or mashing corn and other substances against a metate.



mantilla – a silk or lace scarf which usually covers the head and shoulders. A large comb was used to hold the mantilla on the head.

metate – a grinding stone with a flat surface on which substances (such as corn) are crushed or ground with a mano.

mortar – a bowl-like container in which substances (such as acorns) are crushed with a pestle.

native – plant or animal that has lived in an area since pre-historic times.

obsidian – volcanic glass used for making arrowheads, knife blades and other sharp objects.

padre – a Catholic priest.

pestle – a club-shaped hand tool used for grinding, crushing or mashing substances in a mortar.

rattle – a musical instrument used by the Chumash and Gabrielino/Tongva. The deer hoof rattle was made with deer hooves that are fastened loosely to a handle and shaken to produce a series of sharp clicking sounds.

reata – a rope made of braided rawhide used to tie or lasso cattle. It was also used to measure tracts of land.

resource – refers to land and water sites, scenery, plants, animals, minerals, archaeological and historical remains, etc.

staple food – a primary food in the diet of a given culture (such as wheat, corn, acorns, etc.).

steatite (soapstone) – a heat-resistant type of rock that can be safely heated, carved into cooking bowls and pans, beads, pipes, and other items. It does not crack when heated.

sweathouse – rounded, mud or skin-covered structure used as a steambath to purify the body and spirit.

tallow – the fatty tissue or hard fat of cattle that is melted and used to make candles and soap.

tannic acid – a bitter substance made by the oak tree and found in acorns.

temescal – the term given to the Chumash and Gabrielino/Tongva sweathouse, by the Spanish.

tiat – the ocean-going Gabrielino/Tongva plank boat or canoe.

tomol – the ocean-going Chumash plank boat or canoe.

tule – thick and long-leaved plant that grows in or near water. Used to thatch *aps* (Chumash) or *kiiys* (Gabrielino/Tongva) and to make baskets, mats and other woven items.

vaqueros – cowboys; the Spanish word for people who herd cattle, sheep or horses.

willow – trees that grow in or near water. Used as a building material and for tools, baskets and medicines.

